

William Pitt Tavern (Earl of Halifax Tavern)
402-404 Court Street
Portsmouth
Rockingham County
New Hampshire

HABS No. NH-102

HABS
NH,
8-PORT,
133-

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, D.C. 20240

ARCHITECTURAL DATA FORM

STATE New Hampshire	COUNTY Rockingham	TOWN OR VICINITY Portsmouth
HISTORIC NAME OF STRUCTURE (INCLUDE SOURCE FOR NAME) William Pitt Tavern (Earl of Halifax)		HABS NO. NH-102
SECONDARY OR COMMON NAMES OF STRUCTURE		
COMPLETE ADDRESS (DESCRIBE LOCATION FOR RURAL SITES) 402-404 Court Street		
DATE OF CONSTRUCTION (INCLUDE SOURCE) 1766	ARCHITECT(S) (INCLUDE SOURCE) John Stavers	
SIGNIFICANCE (ARCHITECTURAL AND HISTORICAL, INCLUDE ORIGINAL USE OF STRUCTURE) Masonic order met in the attic of this building as early as 1769. Among the guests were Pres. George Washington, Capt. John Paul Jones and others.		
STYLE (IF APPROPRIATE)		
MATERIAL OF CONSTRUCTION (INCLUDE STRUCTURAL SYSTEMS) Three and one-half story clapboarded building.		
SHAPE AND DIMENSIONS OF STRUCTURE (SKETCHED FLOOR PLANS ON SEPARATE PAGES ARE ACCEPTABLE)		
EXTERIOR FEATURES OF NOTE		
INTERIOR FEATURES OF NOTE (DESCRIBE FLOOR PLANS, IF NOT SKETCHED)		
MAJOR ALTERATIONS AND ADDITIONS WITH DATES In 1790s, house divided in two for Staver's two daughters to inherit when he died. In 1890s, the structure was made over into five tenements.		
PRESENT CONDITION AND USE		
OTHER INFORMATION AS APPROPRIATE		
SOURCES OF INFORMATION (INCLUDING LISTING ON NATIONAL REGISTER, STATE REGISTERS, ETC.) Strawbery Banke in Portsmouth, New Hampshire, Strawbery Banke, Inc., 1966.		
COMPILER, AFFILIATION Mary Buckley Architectural Historian HABS		DATE July 1, 1983